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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,708	11/30/2001	Luyin Zhao	US010602 (702787)	8656
24737	7590	02/23/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			LAZARO, DAVID R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2155	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/015,708	Applicant(s) ZHAO ET AL.	
	Examiner David Lazaro	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09/10/2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/30/01, 8/26/02, 5/12/2003</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are pending in this Office Action.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDS) received 11/30/01, 8/26/02 and 5/12/2003 have been considered by the examiner.

Drawings

3. Formal drawing received 09/10/2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 14-19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,643,650 by Slaughter et al. (Slaughter).

6. With respect to Claim 1, Slaughter teaches a method for obtaining service information over the Internet (Col. 8 lines 43-67), the method comprising: at least one service provider registering a service with a server and storing the same in a database

(Col. 45 lines 21-49); a user requesting a service from the server (Col. 46 lines 46-63 and Col. 48 lines 44-59); initially searching the database for the requested service (Col. 46 line 64 - Col. 47 line 38); updating the database (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27); subsequently searching the updated database for the requested service (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 13-38); and notifying the user of the results of the subsequent search (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

7. With respect to Claim 2, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches notifying the user of the results of the initial search (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

8. With respect to Claim 4, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 2 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service, and if the requested service is found in the database from either the initial or the subsequent search, the corresponding notifying comprises informing the user of the corresponding service status of the requested service (Col. 49 lines 3-14).

9. With respect to Claim 5, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 2 and further teaches if the requested service is not found in the database from either the initial or the subsequent search, the corresponding notifying comprises informing the user that the requested service is not registered with the server (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

10. With respect to Claim 6, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches storing the request for the service in the database for subsequent search (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27).

11. With respect to Claim 7, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches notifying the user that the service request has been stored (Col. 22 lines 28-37 and Col. 48 lines 51-59).

12. With respect to Claim 9, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 2 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service, and if the requested service is found on the server in the initial search and the service status indicates that the service is available, the corresponding notifying of the initial search results comprises informing the user that the requested service is available (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

13. With respect to Claim 10, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 2 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service, and if the requested service is found on the server in the initial search and the service status indicates that the service is unavailable, the corresponding notifying of the initial search results comprises informing the user that the requested service is unavailable (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

14. With respect to Claim 11, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 10 and further teaches storing the request for the service in the database (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27).

15. With respect to Claim 12, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 11 and further teaches notifying the user that the service request has been stored (Col. 22 lines 28-37 and Col. 48 lines 51-59).

16. With respect to Claim 14, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service, and if the requested service is not found on the server in the initial search but found in the subsequent search and the service status indicates that the service is available, the notifying of the subsequent search results comprises informing the user that the requested service has been found in a subsequent search and is available (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

17. With respect to Claim 15, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service, and if the requested service is not found on the server in the initial search but found in the subsequent search and the service status indicates that the service is unavailable, the notifying of the subsequent search results comprises informing the user that the requested service has been found in a subsequent search and is unavailable (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

18. With respect to Claim 16, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches the updating comprises permitting at least one additional service provider to register with the server (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27).

19. With respect to Claim 17, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches the registering further comprises registering a corresponding service status for the service and the updating comprises permitting the at least one registered service provider to change the corresponding service status (Col. 45 lines 21-49 and Col. 49 lines 3-14).

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20. With respect to Claim 18, Slaughter teaches a system for obtaining service information over the Internet (Col. 8 lines 43-67), the system comprising: a server having a memory operatively connected thereto for storing a database of services by service providers (Col. 45 lines 21-49); means for receiving a request for a service by a user (Col. 46 lines 46-63 and Col. 48 lines 44-59); means for initially searching the database for the service request (Col. 46 line 64 - Col. 47 line 38); means for updating the database (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27); means for subsequently searching the updated database for the requested service (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 13-38); and means for notifying the user of the results of the subsequent search (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

21. With respect to Claim 19, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches means for notifying the user of the results of the initial search (Col. 49 lines 3-14 and Col. 47 lines 39-58).

22. With respect to Claim 21, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches a memory for storing the request if the requested service is not found in the database in the initial search (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27).

23. With respect to Claim 22, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches the means for updating comprises means for permitting at least one additional service provider to register with the server (Col. 48 line 44 - Col. 49 line 27).

24. With respect to Claim 23, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches the at least one service provider further registers a corresponding service status for the service and the means for updating comprises means for

permitting the at least one registered service provider to change the corresponding service status (Col. 45 lines 21-49 and Col. 49 lines 3-14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

25. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

26. Claims 3, 8, 13 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slaughter in view of U.S. Patent 5,974,406 by Bisdikian et al. (Bisdikian).

27. With respect to Claim 3, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 but does not explicitly teach either of the notifying comprises sending an e-mail to the user. Bisdikian teaches notification of updated search results can comprise sending an e-mail to the interested user (Col. 3 lines 34-40 and Col. 5 line 54-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the method disclosed by Slaughter and modify it as indicated by Bisdikian such that either of the notifying comprises sending an e-mail to the user. One would be motivated to have this, as it is desirable to not have the user be burdened with repeatedly checking for new or updated search results (Col. 2 lines 1-10 of Bisdikian).

28. With respect to Claim 8, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 7 but does not explicitly teach the notifying that the service request has been stored comprises

sending an e-mail to the user indicating the storage of the service request. Bisdikian teaches notification of a service can comprise sending an e-mail to the user (Col. 3 lines 34-40 and Col. 5 line 54-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the method disclosed by Slaughter and modify it as indicated by Bisdikian such that the notifying that the service request has been stored comprises sending an e-mail to the user indicating the storage of the service request. One would be motivated to have this, as it is desirable to give the user notification instead of requiring the user to determine the information on their own (Col. 2 lines 1-10 of Bisdikian).

29. With respect to Claim 13, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 12 but does not explicitly teach the notifying that the service request has been stored comprises sending an e-mail to the user indicating the storage of the service request. Bisdikian teaches notification of a service can comprise sending an e-mail to the user (Col. 3 lines 34-40 and Col. 5 line 54-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the method disclosed by Slaughter and modify it as indicated by Bisdikian such that the notifying that the service request has been stored comprises sending an e-mail to the user indicating the storage of the service request. One would be motivated to have this, as it is desirable to give the user notification instead of requiring the user to determine the information on their own (Col. 2 lines 1-10 of Bisdikian).

30. With respect to Claim 20, Slaughter teaches all the limitations of Claim 19 but does not explicitly teach either of the means for notifying comprises means for

generating an e-mail and transmitting the same to the user. Bisdikian teaches notification of updated search results can comprise sending an e-mail to the interested user (Col. 3 lines 34-40 and Col. 5 line 54-65). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the system disclosed by Slaughter and modify it as indicated by Bisdikian such that either of the means for notifying comprises means for generating an e-mail and transmitting the same to the user. One would be motivated to have this, as it is desirable to not have the user be burdened with repeatedly checking for new or updated search results (Col. 2 lines 1-10 of Bisdikian).

Conclusion

31. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

32. U.S. Patent 6,185,611 by Waldo et al. "Dynamic Lookup Service in a Distributed System" February 6, 2001. Discloses ongoing notification to client of updated lookup services.

33. U.S. Patent 6,757,262 by Weisshaar et al. "Service Framework Supporting Remote Service Discovery and Connection" June 29, 2004. Discloses a service framework for discovering and connecting to a variety of services and to disconnect from them with they are no longer of interest or become unavailable.

34. U.S. Patent 6,845,393 by Murphy et al. "Lookup Discovery Service in a Distributed System having a Plurality of Lookup Services each with Associated


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Characteristics and Services" January 18, 2005. Discloses continuous lookup discovery service that notifies user of newly available services as well as changes in state of current lookup services.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lazaro whose telephone number is 571-272-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David Lazaro
February 17, 2005


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER